

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

NR Eligible: yes ☐
no ☐

Property Name: George W. Baker House Inventory Number: HA-1296
Address: 3647 Churchville Road City: Aberdeen Zip Code: 21001
County: Harford County USGS Topographic Map: Aberdeen, Maryland, 1985
Owner: Milton J. & Dorothy E. Nelson Is the property being evaluated a district? NO
Tax Parcel Number: 746 Tax Map Number: 51 Tax Account ID Number: 062070
Project: Adams Property Agency: Federal Communications Commission
Site visit by MHT Staff: ☒ no ☐ yes Name: _____ Date: _____
Is the property located within a historic district? ☐ yes ☒ no

If the property is within a district District Inventory Number: _____
NR-listed district ☐ yes Eligible district ☐ yes District Name: _____
Preparer's Recommendation: Contributing resource ☐ yes ☐ no Non-contributing but eligible in another context ☐

If the property is not within a district (or the property is a district)
Preparer's Recommendation: Eligible ☐ yes ☒ no

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None
Documentation on the property/district is presented in: Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form for State Historic Sites Survey dated July, 1979

Description of Property and Eligibility Determination: *(Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map and photo)*

The property was most recently observed and photographed on January 17, 2003. Its condition was changed since the preparation of the Inventory Form for State Historic Sites Survey form in the library of the Maryland Historical Trust.

The property is described in the Maryland Historical Trust Inventory Form For State Historic Sites Survey prepared by Natalie Shivers, Historic Sites Surveyor, Harford County Historical District Commission, in July 1979. Following is a brief summary of that property description, as modified by site observations made January 17, 2003.

From the description, the house is set on a stone foundation and faces the north. The two story main section or north section is five bays wide and two bays deep with a gable roof and a center gable. A brick chimney is located on the east end. The house is covered with aluminum siding and the dormers have scalloped shingles. In

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW	
Eligibility recommended <input type="checkbox"/>	Eligibility not recommended <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Criteria: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D	Considerations: <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> D <input type="checkbox"/> E <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> G <input type="checkbox"/> None
Comments: _____	

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services <i>[Signature]</i>	Date <u>4/30/03</u>
Reviewer, NR Program <i>[Signature]</i>	Date <u>4/29/03</u>

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
NR-ELIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Continuation Sheet No. 1

HA-1296

addition, the house was originally described as being in fair condition and altered. The house has been turned into an apartment house with additions on every side and at every junction. At the time of the visit, the west side and southwest corner of the building has received a wood deck. The remaining facades observed unchanged from the description in the attached form. It was observed that springhouse appears unchanged from the description in the attached form.

The property is not associated with any event or personage that would qualify it for eligibility under Criteria A or B, respectively. The original integrity, character, and detail of the original building have been so compromised by the alterations and renovations it has undergone that it does not qualify for registration under Criterion C for Design/Construction. No known archaeological significance is associated with the property, making it ineligible for consideration under Criterion D.

Prepared by: William C. Riggs, RA
Historic Architect

Date Prepared: 01.28.03

Photo Negative List - Adams Raw Land 09.75132.0272

Ordered by Property Number

Roll 1		Roll 2		Roll 3				No Photos- (Bldg. demolished, or not in survey area)
Neg	Property	Neg	Property	Neg	Property	Summary		
1-33	HA-1294	2-17	HA-0987	3-4	HA-1296	HA-0987	HA-988	
1-34	HA-1294	2-18	HA-0987	3-5	HA-1296	HA-0989	HA-1295	
1-35	HA-1294	2-19	HA-0987	3-6	HA-1296	HA-0991	HA-1304	
1-36	HA-1294	2-2	HA-0989	3-7	HA-1297	HA-0998	HA-1313	
1-1	HA-1533	2-3	HA-0989	3-8	HA-1297	HA-0999		
1-2	HA-1533	2-4	HA-0989	3-9	HA-1297	HA-1293		
1-3	HA-1533	2-11	HA-0991	3-10	HA-1297	HA-1294		
1-4	HA-1533	2-12	HA-0991	3-1	HA-1554	HA-1296		
1-5	HA-1533	2-13	HA-0991	3-2	HA-1554	HA-1297		
1-6	HA-1534	2-14	HA-0991	3-3	HA-1554	HA-1533		
1-7	HA-1534	2-15	HA-0991			HA-1534		
1-8	HA-1534	2-16	HA-0991			HA-1535		
1-9	HA-1534	2-33	HA-0998			HA-1536		
1-10	HA-1534	2-34	HA-0998			HA-1553		
1-11	HA-1534	2-35	HA-0998			HA-1554		
1-12	HA-1534	2-36	HA-0998			HA-1618		
1-13	HA-1534	2-25	HA-0999			HA-1875		
1-14	HA-1534	2-26	HA-0999					
1-23	HA-1535	2-27	HA-0999					
1-24	HA-1535	2-28	HA-0999					
1-25	HA-1535	2-29	HA-0999					
1-26	HA-1535	2-30	HA-0999					
1-27	HA-1535	2-20	HA-1293					
1-28	HA-1535	2-21	HA-1293					
1-29	HA-1535	2-22	HA-1293					
1-15	HA-1553	2-23	HA-1293					
1-16	HA-1553	2-24	HA-1293					
1-17	HA-1553	2-1	HA-1536					
1-18	HA-1553	2-5	HA-1536					
1-19	HA-1553	2-6	HA-1536					
1-20	HA-1553	2-7	HA-1536					
1-21	HA-1553	2-8	HA-1536					
1-22	HA-1553	2-9	HA-1536					
1-30	HA-1618	2-10	HA-1536					
1-31	HA-1618	2-31	HA-1875					
1-32	HA-1618	2-32	HA-1875					



SITE VICINITY MAP
Aberdeen, MD Quadrangle
SCALE: As Shown



Property Condition Assessment
HA-1296_ George W. Baker House
Aberdeen, MD 21001



HA-1296

GEORGE W. BAKER HOUSE

3647 CHURCHVILLE RD.,

ABERDEEN, HARTFORD CO.,

MD. 21001

PHOTO BY: JAMISON STOVER 01.17.03

NEG@MD SHPO

NORTH & WEST ELEVATIONS

1/2

GEORGE W. BAKER HOUSE HA-1296

ABERDEEN, MD 21001

01.03

Photo Taken: 01.29.03



HA-1296

GEORGE W. BAKER HOUSE

3647 CHURCHVILLE RD.

ABERDEEN, HARFORD CO.

MD. 21001

PHOTO BY: JAMISON STOVER 01.17.03

NEAR MD 544

EAST ELEVATION

GEORGE W. BAKER HOUSE HA-1296

ABERDEEN, MD 21001

01.03

Photo Gallery 01.29.03

HA-1296

George W. Baker House
3647 Churchville Road
Aberdeen, Maryland 21001

This ca. 1850 frame mansion was built by George W. Baker, the premier canner in Harford County. He established his canning business in 1866 and ultimately owned three factories and 3000 acres of fruit and corn. Baker was a pioneer in the industry and established a well-known dynasty of canners in the area.

Although the house has been remodelled severely, its previous splendor can be imagined. The lavish Italianate ornament that remains on the exterior provides a tantalizing clue to its former glory.

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

George W. Baker House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

south side of Churchville Rd. (Old Rte. 22), west of Rte. 95 interchange, near

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

___ VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland 21014

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Aberdeen.

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

McGrady Construction Co.

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

3647 Churchville Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Aberdeen,

___ VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code
Maryland, 21001

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE.

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

40 S. Main St.

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE
Maryland 21014

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

___ FEDERAL ___ STATE ___ COUNTY ___ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☒ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The original shape and stature of this amorphous frame house located on the south side of Churchville Rd. west of Rte. 95 are barely discernible now. It has been turned into an apartment house with additions on every side and at every juncture.

The house, set on a stone foundation, faces north: the two-story main or north section is five bays wide and two bays deep with a gable roof and center gable. Although the hip-roofed porch has been filled in, the top half of the original front is still intact. There is a brick chimney in the east end, and the five windows in the second story have 2/2 sash and louvered shutters. The center bay contains a tripartite window with bellcast roof supported on carved brackets in the second story and a round-arched window in the gable. The center gable is flanked by two dormer windows—each containing an ensemble of a central round window and two round-arched windows. The roof and dormer cornices are supported on carved brackets. The house is covered in aluminum siding, but the dormers have scalloped shingles.

The west end of the main section is also relatively intact with two windows in each story.

Of the rest of the structure, only the gable-roofed portion of the south side appears to be original, so apparently the house was el-shaped. The south end of the el has an interior brick chimney with a corbelled cap, flanked by four-light windows in the gable, and there is one window each in the first and the second stories.

West of the house is one-story, two bay by one bay, gable-roofed structure covered in shiplap. The boxed cornice has gable returns, and windows have 2/2 sash. The entrance is in the east side.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1849, the heirs of Nicholas Baker III sold 14 acres of "Mitchells Lot" to their brother, George W. Baker, for \$100.¹ In 1850, George W. Baker took out a \$1200 mortgage with Nicholas Baker (probably his brother, who was born in 1810). Included in the deed were George W. Baker's machinery for making chairs--"1 steam engine of 6 horsepower used for sawing and turning chairs, stuff, 3 circular saws and saw shaft with all the machinery and fixtures, also 1 mill or machine for sawing chair tops"--and his household furniture: "2 feather beds and bedding, 2 bedsteads, 1 cherry table, 1 walnut table, half a dozen cane seat chairs, ½ dozen windsor, 1 mahogany bureau, and...breakfast and dinner china and queensware..."²

George W. Baker's 1850 inventory suggests a prosperous--although not remarkably so--owner of a chair-making enterprise. The house he built on this lot attests to his later rise as a premier canner in Harford County, founding his business in 1866, ultimately owning 3 factories and 3000 acres of fruit and corn. He was a pioneer in the industry and eventually played a pivotal role in establishing a whole dynasty of Baker canners.

George W. Baker was born in the Rodman house (HA-999) in 1815. He died in 1889, and in 1894 this lot, including 30 acres he had purchased in 1862, were sold to Susan E. Courtney for \$5000.³ Della Chalk received this land via Susan Courtney's will⁴; in 1940, she and her husband sold 10-3/4 acres of the original lot owned by George W. Baker to Donald and Rebecca Craig.⁵

The house must have been splendid when George W. Baker lived in it. The lavish Italianate ornament that remains on the exterior provides a tantalizing clue to its former glory. It is a gussied-up Harford County farmhouse with its center gable, dormer windows, and el shape, and shows that George W. Baker was at heart a Harford County farmer. The Baker houses on Bel Air Avenue in Aberdeen, have a more cosmopolitan and showy bearing, having been built by the second generation of canners.

Footnotes

¹ HDG 35/518

² HDG 35/515

³ WSF 81/41

⁴ JA 16/266

⁵ GCB 259/436

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Land & Will records of Harford County

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Natalie Shivers, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Historic District Commission

DATE

July, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

45 S. Main Street

TELEPHONE

301-879-2000 ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE

Maryland

21014

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

George W. Baker House

Title Search

HA- 1296

GRG	729/552	December 6, 1966	<p>Grantor: Jerusha G. Oliver, surviving Trustee for estate of Malcolm W. Mitchell</p> <p>Grantee: McGrady Construction Co.</p> <p>Acreage: 2 Parcels 1.) 2.34 Acres 2.) 2.03 Acres</p>
GCB	269/331	November 3, 1941	<p>Grantor: Donald I. & Rebecca G. Craig</p> <p>Grantee: Malcolm W. & Eva O. Mitchell</p> <p>Acreage: 10 Acres</p>
GCB	259/436	April 27, 1940	<p>Grantor: Della E. & Thomas H. Thalk</p> <p>Grantee: Donald I. & Rebecca G. Craig</p> <p>Acreage: 10-3/4 Acres</p>
WSF	81/41	May 18, 1894	<p>Grantor: William B. Baker and wife Marge C. Wesley & Lydia Harward, Charles W. & Emma Baker, John H. Baker, Asel & Alice C. Tollinger, George H. & Mattie W. Baker, James B. Baker, & wife Fannie M. & Sarah R. Carty</p> <p>Grantee: Susan E. Courtney</p> <p>Acreage: 2 Parcels 1.) part of "Mitchells lot"-30 Acres, 1 Rood, 9 Square Perches 2.) From Nicholas Baker September 19, 1855 ALJ 6/273</p> <p>Sum: \$5000</p>
ALJ	6/273	September 19, 1855	<p>Grantor: Nicholas Baker</p> <p>Grantee: George W. Baker</p> <p>Acreage: 14 Acres, part of "Mitchells Lot"</p> <p>Sum: \$1200</p>
HDG	35/515	February 4, 1850 (Ind.)	<p>Grantor: George W. Baker</p> <p>Grantee: Nicholas Baker</p> <p>Acreage: 14 Acres-part of "Mitchells Lot"</p> <p>Sum: \$1200</p>
HDG	35/518	December 28, 1849 (Ind.)	<p>Grantor: Elizabeth Baker, Nicholas & Elizabeth Baker, Charles Baker, James Baker, Sarah Baker, Tailor Gilbert and wife Sophia, Henry and Elizabeth Arnold</p> <p>Grantee: George W. Baker</p> <p>Acreage: 14 Acres-"Mitchells Lot"</p> <p>Sum: \$100</p>

ABERDEEN
USGS
QUADRANGLE

HA-1296

Hopewell Ch

Level

HA-14

HA-1278

HA-1279

HA-277

Churchville

HA-994

Smith Chapel

HA-1276

Bodt Corner

HA-1284

HA-1286

HA-1053

HA-1287

HA-1285

HA-1054

HA-1300

HA-1296

Aldino Airport

Aldino

HA-9

Cem

GRATONS

LANE

Carsins

Carsins

Jefferson Sch

Gravel Pit

Baker Cem

HA-1

GILBERT

Grays



HA-1296

George W. Baker house
Aberdeen, MD 21001
Natalie Shivers
March, 1979
Southwest



HA- 1296

George W. Baker house

Aberdeen, MD 21001

Natalie Shivers

March, 1979

Northwest